

Message Text

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CODEL WOLFF), PFOR ID

SUBJ: CODEL WOLFF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO

BEGIN SUMMARY: ON AGUSUT 8, DURING VISIT TO JAKARTA, ELEVEN MEMBER US CONGRESSIONAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON FUTURE US FOREIGN POLICY, OED BY CHAIRMAN LESTER WOLFF, CALLED ON RESIDENT SUHARTO. SUHARTO DEVOTED MOST OF MEETING TO EXPLAINING INDONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL AND REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS AND GOI DEVELOPMENT POLICIES. HE ALSO STRESSED NEED FOR CONTINUED ASSISTANCE FROM US AND OTHER FREINDLY COUNTRIES FOR INDONESIA'S DEVELOPMENT. ON US BASES, SUHARTO SAID IF THEY ARE REGARDED AS NECESSARY BY ASEAN COUNTRIES WHERE THEY ARE LOCATED TO DEFEND THEIR NATIONAL INTEGRITY, INDONESIA DOES NOT OBJECT. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION HE SAID PRESS FREEDOM MUST BE MATCHED BY RESPONSIBILITY. END SUMMARY

1. PRESIDENT SUHARTO OPENED DISCUSSION WITH DESCRIPTION OF INDONESIA'S 1945 CONSTITUTION, MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS: PEOPLE ARE SOVERIGN AND EXPRESS THEMSELVES THROUGH HIGHEST STATE BODY, PEOPLE'S CONGRESS(MPR) AND PARLIAMENT(DPR), ELECTED EVERY FIVE YEARS, WHOSE MEMBERS

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ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF MPR, MPR DECIDES MAIN OUTLINES OF

STATE POLICY WHICH ARE IMPLEMENTED BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE PARLIMENT; IF THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF INTERPRETATION ABOUT PRESIDENT'S EXECUTION OF STATE POLICY, HE MAY BE CALLED TO ACCOUNT, AND IF NECESSARY REMOVED BY VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF MPR; SUHARTO RE-EMPHASIZED THAT EVEN THOUGH HE IS A GENERAL, CONSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM WHICH HE DESCRIBED LIMITS HIS POWER AND CIVILIAN COULD BE PRESIDENT.

2. SUHARTO THEN TURNED TO GOI DEVELOPMENT POLICIES, EXPLAINING BASIC GOAL IS JUST AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETY BASED ON FIVE POINT PANCA SILA STATE IDEOLOGY. INDONESIA WISHES TO BE SELF-RELIANT, BUT BECAUSE OF ITS LIMITED CAPITAL AND SKILLS, IT NEEDS COOPERATION FROM FRIENDS. HE SAID ULTIMATE AIM IS INDUSTRIALIZATION, BUT SINCE 85 PERCENT OF INDONESIANS WORK IN AGRICULTURE, FOOD PRODUCTION AND FARM RELATED INDUSTRIES, SUCH AS FERTILIZER, RECEIVING TOP PRIORITY NOW, WITH SOME EMPHASIS ALSO BEING GIVEN TO INDUSTRIAL AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT.

3. AMONG GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION AND RAISE VERY LOW STANDARD OF LIVING IN RURAL AREAS, SUHARTO MENTIONED HIGH YIELD SEEDS, INSECTICIDES, IRRIGATION AND SOFT LOAN CREDIT PROGRAMS, IN ADDITION TO SUBSIDIES ON FERTILIZER WHICH REDUCE PRICE FROM \$400 TO \$100 A TON. THESE METHODS HAVE IN SOME CASES INCREASED PRODUCTION FROM TWO TO SIX TONS PER HECTARE AND HAVE ENABLED PLANTING OF 2-1/2 CROPS A YEAR. HE ALSO MENTIONED ANNUAL VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT SUBSIDY OF ABOUT \$250 GIVEN TO EACH VILLAGE, WHICH, COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL "GOTONG ROYONG"(MUTUAL COOPERATION) IN VILLAGES, STIMULATES DEVELOPMENT.

4. CHAIRMAN WOLFF EXPRESSED THANKS FOR HOSPITALITY AND COOPERATION RECEIVED FROM THE GOI, AND EXPLAINED RESPONSIBILITY OF SUBCOMMITTEE. HE ALSO EXPLAINED GROWING ROLE OF THE CONGRESS IN US FOREIGN POLICY.

5. CHAIRMAN WOLFF ASSURED SUHARTO THAT US EXPERIENCE IN VIETNAM DOES NOT MEAN AN END TO AMERICAN INTEREST IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASIA; INDEED, IT HAS CREATED A RESURGENCE AND REVIVAL OF OUR INTEREST IN COOPERATION AS EQUAL PARTNERS WITH NATIONS SUCH AS INDONESIA--WHICH US BELIEVES IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT. ALTHOUGH US IS EXPERIENCING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, LARGE NATIONS OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING US AND INDONESIA, HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT THE WORLD REMAINS AT PEACE AND THAT THERE IS PLENTY FOR ALL. CONGRESS, THEREFORE, IS INTERESTED IN INDONESIA'S VIEWS ON NEW FORMS OF

COOPERATION BWTWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

6. PRESIDENT SUHARTO REPLIED THAT WORLD NEEDS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATION BASED ON MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY. IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THIS, NATIONS MUST NOT EMPHASIZE ONE SIDED NATIONAL ITEREST. HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT US COULD PLAY VITAL ROLE IN A DURABLE PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND WORLD WIDE. NOTWITHSTANDING CURRENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN US, SUHARTO SAID, AMERICA HAS IMMENSE ECONOMIC STRENGTH COMPARED TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. US CAN BEST USE THIS POTENTIAL TO ASSIST OTHER NATIONS AND AVOID BEING COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE BY HELPING THEM PROMOTE THEIR OWN SELF RELIEANCE.

7. TURNING TO US MAILITARY BASES, CHAIRMAN WOLFF NOTED THAT THE MEMBERS WERE SOMEWHAT UNCERTAIN ABOUT INDONESIA'S VIEW CONCERNING DESIRABILITY OF THESE BASES IN OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES. WOULD INDONESIA PREFER THAT THE US ABANDON THESE BASES? SUHARTO REPLIED: "THE PRESENCE OF US FORCES IN ASIA TAKES THE FORM OF BASES AND AS AN UMBRELLA OR PROTECTION AGAINST THREATS. INDONESIA HERSELF RELIES ON NATIONAL RESILIENCE, WHICH HAS ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS, AS WELL AS ON ITS THEORY OF TERRITORIAL WARFARE TO MOBILIZE ITS POTENTIAL AGAINST THREATS. WE ALSO INVITE OTHER ASEAN NATIONS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR NATIONAL RESILIENCE. IF THEY ARE UNABLE TO DO SO AND STILL NEED FOREIGN BASES, WE CAN ONLY REGARD SUCH BASES AS NECESSARY, BECAUSE OF THE FACTS PREVAILING, FOR THESE COUNTRIES TO DEFEND THEIR OWN INTEGRITY. INDONESIA NEEDS NO BASES, BUT WE CANNOT AVOID BASES IN OTHER COUNTRIES OR BLAME THEM."

8. CONGRESSMAN GILMAN THEN OBSERVED THAT SOME INDONESIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LEADERS HAD INFORMED CONGRESSMEN THAT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES SOME SACRAFICES IN FREEDOM OF THE PRESS. HE ASKED SUHARTO IF GREATER DEGREE OF FREEDOM WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN VIEW OF CONOMIC GAINS BEING MADE. SUHARTO REPLIED THAT THE INDONESIAN CONSTITUTION GUARANTEES FREE PRESS THAT IS RESPONSIBLE; FREEDOM MUST BE COUPLED WITH RESPONSIBILITY IN STRENGTHENING NATIONAL RESILEINCE AND SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO DISRUPT OR DESTROY STABILITY. NEWSOM

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